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A circular black ink stamp from the Office of Intellectual Property (OIP). The text "OIP" is at the top, "JCS" is at the bottom, and "MAY 18 2005" is in the center. The words "OFFICE OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY" are written around the inner edge of the circle.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

MICHAEL T. CARLEY et al.

Serial No.: 10/617,090

Filed: July 9, 2003

For: Closure Device and Methods for Making and Using Them

Group Art Unit: 3731

Examiner: Daniel J. Davis

Confirmation No.: 1941

RESPONSE TO OFFICIAL ACTION

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the official action dated March 22, 2005 please see the below remarks and amendments.

Amendments to the specification and abstract begins on page 2;

Amendments to the claims begin on page 5; and

Remarks begin on page 7.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
(37 C.F.R. §1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Mary L. Smith

May 10, 2005
Date of Deposit

Mary L. Smith
Signature of Person Mailing Paper

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